



5/6/03
NIT-308
8/B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

A. SANADA et al

Serial No. 09/987,815

Group Art Unit: 2161

Filed: November 16, 2001

Examiner: R. Zender

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RENTAL STORAGE SYSTEM

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination thereof, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel non-elected ~~claims~~ 16 and 17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

Non-elected claims 16 and 17 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer so they can be prosecuted in a divisional application. Accordingly, claims 1-15 and 18-20 are currently pending in the application.

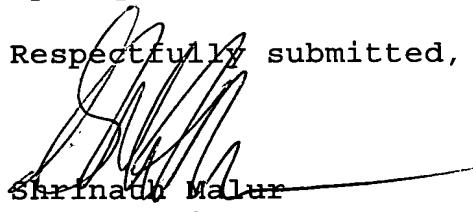
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APR 30 2003
GROUP 3600

Serial No. 09/987,815

NIT-308

Examination is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Shrinath Malur

Registration No. 34,663

Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1120
Date: April 25, 2003

PATENT

Case Docket No. NIT-308

APR 25 2003

RE application of A. SANADA et al
 Serial No.: 09/987,815
 Filed: November 16, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2161
 Examiner: R. Zender

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RENTAL STORAGE SYSTEM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.

A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

(COL. 1)		(COL. 2)		(COL. 3)
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra
Total	• 18	Minus	** 20	= 0
Indep.	• 5	Minus	*** 7	= 0
<input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claims				

SMALL ENTITY	
Rate	Additional Fee
x 9	\$
x 42	\$
+ 140	\$
Total	\$

OR

OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
Rate	Additional Fee
x 18	\$ 0
x 84	\$ 0
+ 280	\$ 0
Total	\$ 0

- * If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write '0' in Col. 3.
- ** If the 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write '20' in this space.
- *** If the 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write '3' in this space.

The 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior Amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-1417 in the amount of \$ _____.

A check in the amount of \$ _____ is attached in payment of: _____.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.

Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Any Extension of Time fees that are necessary, which are hereby requested if necessary.

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.
 1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370
 Alexandria, Virginia 22314
 (703) 684-1120

By:


 Shrikrishna Malur
 Registration No. 34,663
 Attorney for Applicant(s)

Date: April 25, 2003